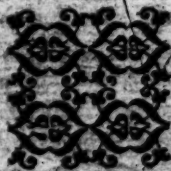


THE *Francis Duke of Angou*  
PROTESTATI- 2

ON OF THE MOST HIGH AND  
MIGHTIE PRINCE FRAYNCIS,  
*bothe Sonne and Brother of King, Duke of*  
*Allenfon and of Exceux, Earle of Dreux, & of*  
*Perche &c.*

LIVETENANT GENERAL FOR  
THE KING IN ALL HIS COVN.  
*treis and dominions, Protector of the*  
*libertie of the Crowne of France,*  
*oppressed by the strangers.*



*Ham: Lyon*

*Roberti Hare*

Translated out of frenche into En-  
glish, and newly imprinted.

1575.

THE  
OF THE  
AND

THE KING IN ALL HIS COME  
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# THE PROTESTA-

TION OF THE MOST HIGHE  
and mightie Prince Frauncis, bothe Sonne  
and Brother of King, Duke of Allenson &c.

RAVNCIS, both sonne &  
brother of a King, Duke  
of Allenson, first Peere of  
Fraunce &c. To all men  
whome it shall appertaine,  
Greeting. Knowe ye that we being true-  
ly aduertised and informed, that of the  
obseruation of lawes dependeth the  
conseruation of all Realmes and Lord-  
shippis, and by that meanes peace grow-  
eth and is intertaind among the sub-  
iectes, So who they are not kept in the  
puritie that our ancestors haue leaft the  
vnto vs, and that they seeme to weaken  
and decaye, and be as it were dead and  
buried, The subiectes being imbol-

A ij.

dened, do licence, dispence, and easily giue them selues to all dissolutnes: vvhich doeth cause oftentimes ciuil vvarres.. And finally the destruction & ouerthrowe of great realmes and commonwelthes: if in time it be not remedied by the diuine goodnes of God, vvhich doth raise (vvhē it pleaseth him) excellent and mightie personnes to vvithstand the tyrānie of those vvhich seeke not but to bring all things to confusion, onely to make them selues riche, (at vvhose cost soeuer it be) of the blood and sweate of the poore: or els to seale them selues of the said realmes & Lordships, as we may easely learne, by the ruynes and decayes of infinit flourishing kingdomes, that by these like meanes haue ended, vvhich ought to be an exāple to al true frenchemē for to prick them foreward to set vp againe the ancient lawes, and to let and vvithstande (euerie one according to the abili-

tic



5  
tie vvhich God hath giuen vnto him )  
that it may not fall into the hands of  
those vvhich of long time haue sought  
for it . And for to bringe their purpose  
to passe , doe nourishe and maintaine  
the dissentions vvhich vve see at this in-  
stāt, coulouring their dealings with the  
cōtrouerſie that is in religiō: which they  
vvoulde be right ſorie to see it pacified,  
as it is euidently ſcene , and vvell kno-  
vven by the things passed , to the intent  
they may colour the better the taxes,  
imposts , and subsidies vvhich they doe  
daily inuent, and gather in the Kinges  
name vpon the poore people, the No-  
bilitie, and the Clergie, vnder pretence  
to pay his debtes : tending onely to the  
vvealthe of ſeuve perſonnes almost all  
ſtraungers , vvhich rule the King , and  
occupie the chiefe places , & offices  
of this realme against the lawes of the  
ſame . All the which enterpriſes vve  
coulede not vvell lyke of, and therefore

haue bene calumniated, and euill reported to the King our most deare Lord and Brother, and for this cause in great daunger of our life, and kept as euery one knoweth, which thīgs we haue suffered, hoping that the King vvoulde remedy such miseries, & suffer no lōger to be abused of so many men, and that he should knowe our innocencie. But seīg the vvounde to vvaxe daily vvorse and vvorse, and no person to be more vvvorthily vsed then vve. And that so many Princes, Lordes, Gentelmen, and Ecclesiasticall persones, Citizens, and burgesses, had their eyes fixed on vs, stretching forth their hands and imploring our aide. We being ouercome vvith their prayers, and partaker of their miseries, resolved (all feare of death set aside, vvvhich vvvas neare to ensue) to attēpt to get out of the captiuitie that vve yvere in, to take the publicke cause in hande, and to withstande  
the

the vicked & pernicious counsellis of the  
 perturbators of this Realme, in vvhich  
 attēpt God hathe so fauored vs that the  
 xvi. day of Septēber vve arriued in this  
 our tovvn of Dreux, vvhē many lords  
 Gentelmē & others, asvvēl of the Cler-  
 gie as of the cōmōs of this realme haue  
 repaired vnto vs: to whome we haue de-  
 clared, that our vvil & intentiō was not  
 to take vpon vs, or to attēpt in any vvise  
 vpō the authoritie of the King our said  
 Lord and Brother, the vvich vve desire  
 to preferue & increafe vvith all our po-  
 vver. But onely to employ vs vvith all  
 our forces, yea not to spare our life and  
 goodes for to put out, and drive avvay  
 all the perturbators of the publickereft:  
 to pursue by lavve and iustice all suche  
 spoyles, theftes, murthers, and slaugh-  
 ters so abominably, and against all right  
 and reason cōmitted in the oppen sight  
 and knowvledge of all men, to deliuer  
 so many Lordes Gentelmen and others

comitted prisoners, or wrongfully bani-  
 shed & without cause: to restore them  
 againe ( and all other honest men ) to  
 their goodes and liuings, estates, and  
 honours: to abolish all taxes, subsidies &  
 imposts set vpon the poore people by  
 the malice and suggestion of strangers,  
 against the auncient Lawes & statutes  
 of this Realme. To maintaine the Nobil-  
 itie and Cleargie in their auncient pri-  
 uiledges, freedoms, & liberties. And so,  
 to stablish in Fraunce, a good, firme, &  
 stable peace. And to bring these things  
 to passe, vve doe not meane to vse any o-  
 ther meanes, but suche as our predices-  
 sors haue done, & that haue bene acusto-  
 med at all times in this Realme, vwhen it  
 hath bene question of reformation of  
 religiō, and iustice: vvhich are the tve  
 principall staves of all Monarchies, to re-  
 store againe the Realme to his former  
 flourishing state, dignity & libertie: that is  
 by a generall and free assemblie of the  
 three



three estates of this Realme, being called  
 & appointed to be kepte in a sure & free  
 place, from the vvhich all straigers shal  
 be excluded. Protestinge before God  
 ( vvhome vve call to our aide & helpe,  
 and vvho vve be assured vvill guide  
 our enterprises ) that vve are not  
 herein moued nor leadde throughe  
 desire of priuate reuenge ( althoughe  
 vve haue iust occasion so to doe, for  
 the greate vvrongs done vnto vs) nor  
 yet of highnes or desire to commaund  
 more then vve doe, or then to vs ap-  
 pertaineth. Being pleased and conten-  
 ted (as we haue good occasiō) vvith the  
 goodes, auctoritie, and greatnes, that we  
 haue of Godds grace, & of his benignity  
 hauing apoynted vs to be borne the son  
 of a Kinge, and ordained vs the seconde  
 person of this Realme. That if it happen  
 ( as God forbid ) to call vs before suche  
 time as we may see the ende and exe-  
 cution of this so holy an enterprise, we

shall thinke vs most happy to haue (for the same) bestowved our life, which doth concerne the seruice of God and of the Kinge, the freedome and libertie of the Nobilitie and of the Cleargie, the rest & vnburdening of the people, and the libertie of the country. And for to take away all lettes, and to reconcyle the hartes of naturall Frenchemen, vve haue taken & do take the, in to our protection and safe keeping, as well of the one religion as of the other. Praying & exhorting the, in the name of God, to behaue them together one with an other as brethren, frendes, and fellowe Citezens: and not to prouoke one an other by iniuries or otherwise: Vntill that by the generall estates, and assembly of counsil order be taken for religion, and to permitte and let euery one enioye the exercise of the same. Praying all Kinges, Quenes, Princes, and Potentates, comon wealthes & all other neighbours, alies, and confederates

derates of this Realme & Crowne to fa-  
uour, ayde, & helpe vs in this so holy and  
laudable enterprise: and to haue none o-  
ther opinion of vs, then that vvhich we  
declare and testifie by this present Pro-  
testation. Praying also all Princes, Lor-  
des, Gentlemen, Citizens, Townes-  
men, & all other subiects of the crowne,  
to repaire to vs, to accompanie & helpe  
vs vvith victualles, armour, money, and  
others their abilities & cōmodities, that  
through their faulte and negligence the  
executiō of so highe an enterprise be not  
differred; & the peace letted. Declaring  
only those to be our ennemies vvhich  
by force shall resiste and seek to vvith-  
stande our enterprise: And our frendes  
those which shall runne vpon them.

Giuen at Dreux, the xvij. day of  
September. 1575.

*Subscribed Francis.*

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